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# NEWSLETTER

A Bimonthly Newsletter for Economic Research Service Employees and Colleagues

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 4  
AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1991



## Reichelderfer Named Associate Administrator

Katherine Reichelderfer has been selected to be the ERS associate administrator. The position was formerly held by Bob Robinson, now director of ERS's Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division.

Reichelderfer began her professional career in ERS in 1977. She has served as leader, Pest Management Technology Section, deputy branch chief, Inputs and Productivity Branch, chief, Latin America Branch, and associate director, Resources and Technology Division.

In 1990, Reichelderfer left ERS to become a senior fellow at the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy, Resources for the Future. There she was responsible for directing RFF's Agriculture, Environment, and Food Safety research program, which focuses on the linkages among agricultural production, environmental quality, health and safety matters, and Federal farm and environmental policies.

Reichelderfer has served as a director of the American Agricultural Economics Association, member of the AAEA Nominating Committee, reviewer of AAEA selected papers, member of a panel of experts on integrated pest control of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and United Nations Environmental Programme, chair of an FAO task force on integrated pest control economics, and member of the steering committee for the AAEA Committee on Women's Opportunities in Agricultural Economics.

Reichelderfer, who has authored numerous articles and monographs, has a B.S. in biology and an M.S. and Ph.D. in agricultural and resource economics from the University of Maryland. She has received two ERS Administrator's Special Merit Awards, an ERS Excellence Award for staff analysis, a USDA Certificate of Merit, and a USDA Superior Service Award.

## ERS To Cosponsor Federal Forecasters Conference

A conference on "The Coordination of Federal Forecasting Activities" is being sponsored by ERS, U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Economic Analysis, Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. Department of Health and Human

Services' Bureau of Health Professions, Office of Technology Assessment, Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics. The conference will be held at USDA's South Building in Washington, D.C., on September 12.

The conference will bring together forecasters from various fields, both within and outside government, to discuss forecasting in the U.S. Government. During the morning session, speakers will examine the relationships among the agencies that produce economic and other forecasts and address how Federal forecasting activities are coordinated among agencies. The afternoon session will consist of contributed papers that explore forecasting methodologies and techniques.

Attendees will receive an updated *Directory of Federal Forecasters* and a copy of the conference proceedings. For registration information, contact Karen Hamrick (219-0782); for information on contributed paper requirements, contact Norman Saunders (Bureau of Labor Statistics) (272-5248).

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## Farm Sector Financial Analysis Branch Restructured

ERS's Agriculture and Rural Economy Division has restructured its Farm Sector Financial Analysis Branch to consolidate financial forecasting activities. A new section, Economic Indicators Forecasts, is responsible for preparing forecasts of the indicators of financial performance and for coordinating input into the *Agricultural Income and Finance: Situation and Outlook* report.

In addition, the Economic Indicators Research and Forecasts Section has been renamed the Farm Firm and Household Well-Being Research Section to reflect its research emphasis on the distribution of farm household income and wealth and on linkages between farm businesses and their associated households.

## Summer Student Interns Expand ERS Staff

This summer, as in the past, student interns are working in various capacities throughout ERS. ERS's summer program is aimed at informing interns about the kinds of future job opportunities available in ERS and giving ERS staff an opportunity to get acquainted with promising students. The 1991 summer intern group of 38 is the largest ever to work in ERS. It is a diverse group in many ways, coming from all across the country and even, in the case of several volunteers, from around the world. They are working on a variety of subjects, including food safety, global climate change, commodity programs, and Central European economic adjustments.

Ranging from high school graduates to Ph.D. candidates, the students represent numerous colleges and universities, including University of Arizona, Brown University, University of California, Carnegie-Mellon Institute, Cornell

University, University of the District of Columbia, Fort Valley State College, George Washington University, Johns Hopkins University, University of Kentucky, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Minnesota, Occidental College, Oklahoma State University, Pennsylvania State University, South Dakota State University, Spelman College, Swarthmore College, University of Texas, Tuskegee University, Utah State University, University of Virginia, College of William and Mary, and University of Wisconsin.

## Milk Inventory Management Options Studied

*Milk Inventory Management*, a congressionally mandated report, was recently prepared by a USDA interagency task force in which ERS participated. Various program options were evaluated, looking at their impacts on milk supply, the livestock sector, farm income, government food assistance programs, surpluses, international trade obligations, consumer interests, and long-term competitiveness.

Mark Weimar, Donald Blayney, Steven Neff, and Richard Fallert (219-1284) estimated supply, use, and price impacts for four major types of program alternatives: a target price/deficiency payment, a reclassification, a two-tier, and a milk diversion option. They also estimated regional impacts on farm income, prices, and production. Richard Stillman analyzed the impacts of the alternative dairy programs on the livestock sector. Fred Hines, Mindy Petrulis, and Judith Sommer calculated impacts of the different programs on five rural dairy communities. Gerald Schluter, Kenneth Hanson, and Arthur Wiese evaluated aggregate impacts on the nondairy production sector.

Study efforts focused on program alternatives that enhanced

farm income while keeping it near the current USDA baseline. An effort was made to ensure that all study options were Federal budget neutral. The study found that most options near the baseline met these options, including the current program.

## Food Review Highlights Environmental Issues

The most recent issue of *Food Review* (Vol. 13, Issue 2, April-June 1991) explores some of the economic-environmental relationships involved in producing, processing, and transporting food. The issue illustrates the complexity of the environmental issues associated with growing food and getting it to the consumer.

Contributions from ERS authors include "Pesticides: How Safe and How Much?" by John Schaub, "The Delaney Clause: New Interpretations" by Philip Szmedra and Walter Ferguson, "Environmental Concern Sparks Renewed Interest in IPM" by

See FOOD REVIEW, p. 5

### ERS Newsletter

Vol. 9, No. 4, Aug./Sept. 1991

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The *ERS Newsletter* is published bi-monthly by the Economic Research Service, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, and distributed free to ERS employees, colleagues, and retirees. Send subscription requests and address changes to: *ERS Newsletter*, ERS/USDA, Rm. 1212, 1301 New York Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20005-4788 (phone 202-219-0310, fax 202-219-0044).



## Administrator's Letter—Good Citizenship in ERS

Organizations and professions prosper only when those working in them accept responsibility for activities beyond regular assignments. Each person's first responsibility is, clearly, to get his or her job done and done well. But other activities are needed for the organization to excel at achieving its mission. These extra activities can also help the person involved grow both professionally and personally. ERS has a long history of people taking on extra duties. They have succeeded in making ERS a better, more effective organization in a multitude of ways. Examples include the following:



- *Reference Center Advisory Committee*—Through the combined efforts of an increasingly strong staff and a very active advisory committee, the ERS Reference Center has become a valuable research resource over the last 5 years. The collections of journals, books, and articles have improved in depth and breadth. A new computerized cataloging and circulation system will make them more accessible. Researchers can do their own searches using new CD-ROM technology. Interlibrary loan requests are filled much more quickly. The Center's newsletter has increased staff awareness of progress. Many of these improvements were stimulated by members of the reference center advisory committee. Membership will change in August, but this past year's members have been Margot Anderson, Phillip Kaufman, Daniel Pick, Shirley Porterfield, Denise Rogers, Mike Trueblood, and Gene Wunderlich.

- *Equal Opportunity Advisory Committee*—Originally constituted to advise me on internal equal opportunity issues, this committee has created a broader role for itself. The committee initiated the first ERS recycling activities, suggested the first ERS-wide activities for summer interns, and recommended the policy adopted on removing gender references from job applications. The insights of committee members on ERS hiring and promotion policies have proved very valuable. The committee has provided rich programs on the many cultures making up our heritage. Individual members have helped us address day-to-day concerns, contributing to our alternative work schedule system and initiating discussions of part-time work and parental leave. I do not have room here to list all of the committee members whose memorable contributions over the years have vastly improved our work culture and environment.

- *Journal of Agricultural Economics Research Board*—Members of this board give invaluable support to the *JAER* editor (also a volunteer) by providing review and comment on the many papers submitted for consideration. They also help set editorial policy and recommend innovations in the *Journal*. During the past year, they led the initiative to get ERS to contract for a technical writing course to improve the quality of writing in the submissions. Current *Journal* board members are Roger Hexem, William Kost, Fred Kuchler, Lester Myers, Kenneth Nelson, Mindy Petrulis, Gerald Schluter, and Shahla Shapouri, augmented by two outside members.

- *30th Anniversary Committee*—I've already discussed our efforts to use ERS's 30th anniversary as a time to reexamine our past and present and make plans for the future. Without the hard work of Cecil Davison, his committee members, and too many other individuals to name, none of our anniversary events would have occurred.

ERS achieves its mission in many ways—developing the resources to get the job done, providing a good work environment, and understanding our place in the broader community. All the groups and people I've mentioned—and many more—assist us in being a more effective public service agency. I'm very grateful for their responsible citizenship and for their contributions to making ERS a better place to work.

  
John Lee

## USDA Honors 19 ERS Staff

At USDA's annual awards ceremony on June 12, Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan presented three USDA superior service awards to ERS staff, one to Ralph Heimlich, one to Thomasine McCall and Rachel Evans, and one to the GATT analytical support group (William Coyle, Terry Crawford, James Deaton, Praveen Dixit, Walter Gardiner, Gene Hasha, Michael Herlihy, Stephen Magiera, Stephanie Mercier, Frederick Nelson, Mary Anne Normile, Vernon Roningen, Ronald Trostle, Paul Westcott, and Glenn Zepp). In addition, Gene Hasha and Barbara Chatten were members of USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service's GATT agriculture negotiating group that received a USDA Superior Service Award.

Heimlich received his award for anticipatory research that contributed to economic understanding of the environmental and natural resource dimension of farm policy. Heimlich anticipated the need for information on the economic aspects of a potential wetland reserve, which was subsequently enacted in the 1990 farm bill. He has also been actively involved with USDA's wetlands task force working to implement the President's "no net loss of wetlands" policy. Heimlich's research also contributed to the design and implementation of the Food Security Act of 1985, specifically the sodbuster, swampbuster, conservation reserve, and conservation compliance features.

McCall and Evans received their award for providing outstanding statistical support to ERS staff. Both McCall and Evans are statistical assistants whose understanding of the data they work with and whose knowledge of how to handle those data make them—and the numbers they produce—extremely reliable. McCall maintains ERS's agricultural import, export, and trade program data base. Evans maintains the



Ralph Heimlich and Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan.



Thomasine McCall, Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan, and Rachel Evans.





Front row: Frederick Nelson, William Coyle, Ronald Trostle, Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan, Stephanie Mercier, Mary Ann Normile, and Praveen Dixit. Back row: Terry Crawford, Glenn Zepp, Paul Westcott, Walter Gardiner, Michael Herlihy, Larry Deaton, and Stephen Magiera. Gene Hasha and Vernon Roningen are not pictured.

total farm input series for the United States and 20 major farming regions.

In June 1990, USDA and ERS task forces were established to provide support to U.S. policymakers and negotiators involved in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations among signers of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. ERS's role was to provide economic policy analysis support for the negotiations. ERS staff provided data and information, evaluated and clarified major issues, prepared documents for submission to the GATT Secretariat, and analyzed alternative policy scenarios. The GATT group played a significant role in evaluating and defining alternative U.S. farm and trade policy options. The contribution of the GATT analytical support group represents exceptional teamwork to provide quality analysis of complex,

controversial, and politically sensitive issues.

#### FOOD REVIEW, from p. 2

Catherine Greene, "Agriculture and Water Quality Conflicts" by Steven Crutchfield, and "Ethanol in Agriculture and the Environment" by James Hrubovcak.

Other contributors are Luanne Lohr (Michigan State University), "Managing Solid By-products of Industrial Food Processing"; Dieter Fishcher (Appropriate Technology International), "Refrigerated Transportation: CFC's and the Environment"; and Robert Testin and Peter Vergano (Clemson University), "Food Packaging."

*Food Review*, edited by Stephen Ott, is published quarterly and is targeted to firms and individuals in the food sector ranging from consultants to agribusiness

managers. The magazine covers economic issues relating to the processing, marketing, and consumption of food.

#### ERS Alumni Notes

*[We invite ERS alumni to write to us at the address on page 2 about what they or other alumni are doing, where they are living, etc.]*

ERS retiree Glen T. Barton has moved to 2600 Barracks Rd., Apt. 263, Charlottesville, VA 22901.

## Personnel Notes

### Harwood Is New CED Cross-Commodity Analyst

Joy Harwood is the new cross-commodity analyst in the Crops



Branch, Commodity Economics Division. She will be responsible for situation and outlook and policy analysis

for major field crops.

Harwood joined ERS in 1987 and has been involved in a variety of research projects and staff analyses, including work on the 1990 farm law, trade reform, GATT, and crop insurance. She was a LEGIS Fellow in Congress in 1990, where she worked on the crop insurance title of the 1990 farm law. Before coming to ERS, she was a graduate teaching assistant at Cornell University.

Harwood has a B.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Illinois and an M.S. and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Cornell University.

### Hyberg Is New CED Section Leader

Bengt Hyberg is the new leader, Fibers and Oils Research Section,



Crops Branch, Commodity Economics Division. The section is responsible for a broad program of research covering demand and

price analysis for fibers and oilseeds; structure and performance of the production and marketing systems for cotton, soybeans, and other oil crops; and costs and benefits of improving the cleanliness and quality attributes of

soybeans in domestic and international markets.

In 1986, Hyberg joined ERS's Resources and Technology Division and transferred to the Crops Branch, Commodity Economics Division, in 1988. His research has focused on the effects of agricultural programs and policies on production, farm income, consumer welfare, rural development, and the liberalization of world agricultural trade. During 1989-90, Hyberg served as ERS's exchange economist at the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics in Canberra. Since returning from Australia, Hyberg's research has focused on grain quality and resource policy.

Hyberg has a B.S. in forest management from Rutgers University and an M.S. in forest management and a Ph.D. in economics and forest management from North Carolina State University.

### McElroy Is New AREC Section Leader

Robert McElroy is the leader of the newly created Economic Indicators Forecasts Section, Farm Sector Financial Analysis Branch, Agriculture and Rural Economy Division. The new section has



been created from the situation and outlook program in the branch to bring together the various forecasting activities relating to farm income and finance.

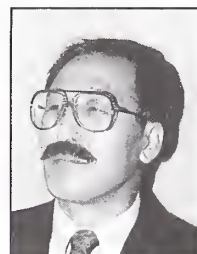
McElroy was senior income analyst in the branch and has been active in farm income situation and outlook research for the past 3 years. He previously worked on estimating costs of production and on surveying farm operators through the Farm Costs and Returns Survey.

In 1974, McElroy joined ERS in Athens, Ga., where he analyzed the economics of new products being developed by USDA's Agricultural Research Service. In 1977, he transferred to Washington to work on ERS's technology assessment program. Since 1981, McElroy has worked on financial analysis. He was also a Peace Corps volunteer in Bogotá, Colombia.

McElroy has a B.S. in business administration and an M.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Florida. He has received four USDA Certificates of Merit on cost-of-production research and an ERS Administrator's Special Merit Award for expanding the *Agricultural Income and Finance: Situation and Outlook* report from an annual to a quarterly report.

### Kim Becomes Senior Economist in RTD

Chong Kim has been named senior economist, Water Branch, Resources and Technology Division. Kim's current work is in modeling the relationships between agricultural chemical use and



ground water quality and in evaluating the effects of government policies on agricultural chemical use. Kim joined ERS's International Economics Division in 1984. His initial research was in the measurement of government subsidies to farm producers and consumers and the effect of subsidies on trade volumes. In 1986, Kim joined the Natural Resources Economics Division and worked on methodological approaches for assessing the opportunity for and benefits of managing depletable resources, especially ground water. During 1988-89, Kim was with the Commodity Economics Division analyzing the economic effects of



trade liberalization in the world wheat and corn markets and evaluating the effects of government farm programs on the structure of the U.S. milling industry.

Kim has had articles published in the *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Western Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Southern Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Journal of Economics*, and *Journal of Agricultural Economics Research*. He has also had seven monographs published in USDA's *technical bulletin* series.

Kim has a B.A. in economic statistics from Sung Kyun University, a B.S. and an M.S. in applied statistics from Utah State University, an M.S. in agricultural economics from the University of Nevada, and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Oregon State University. He has received an ERS Administrator's Special Merit Award for outstanding research.

**Mercier Is New CED Senior Economist**

Stephanie Mercier has been appointed to the senior economist position in the newly established Forecast Support Section, Commodity and Trade Analysis Branch, Commodity Economics



Division. The section is responsible for providing analytical support for analyzing and forecasting developments in global commodity markets.

Mercier joined ERS in 1988 in CED's Crops Branch, and has focused on feed grain trade and policies, trade liberalization, and grain quality. Recently, she has been involved in GATT issues and coordination of Crops Branch activities on commodity-specific questions.

Mercier has an A.B. in economics from Washington University and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Iowa State University. She has received an ERS Administrator's Special Merit Award and a USDA Superior Service Award, both for work on GATT issues.

**Tice Is Named CED Section Leader**

Thomas Tice is the new leader, Coarse Grains Analysis Section, Crops Branch, Commodity Economics Division. The section is responsible for monitoring, analyzing, and reporting supply,



demand, and price developments in the U.S. and world markets for feed grains; providing staff and policy analysis related to the feed grains subsector; conducting research on the economics of feed grain production and utilization; and collecting and maintaining the data necessary to support outlook, staff, and research activities.

During 1979-84, Tice was an assistant professor of agricultural economics at Oklahoma State University. His research focused on the evaluation of alternative wheat production technologies. He also taught farm and ranch management principles to students in all agricultural disciplines.

Tice joined Chase Econometrics in 1984. He initially served as a senior economist in the Canadian Agriculture Service and later became its manager and director.

In 1988, Tice became senior director of the International Agriculture Service of WEFA, Inc. Tice went to AUS Consultants in 1989 to be executive director of agriculture and focused on industry studies as well as a forecasting effort for the U.S. and Canadian agricultural sectors. During

1990/91, Tice was adjunct professor of economics at Villanova University.

Throughout his career, Tice has maintained an active role in the profession, authoring numerous articles in industry and research publications. He has a B.A. in chemistry and education from Bethany College, an M.S. in economics from Kansas State University, and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Purdue University.

**Stillman Is New CED Cross-Commodity Analyst**

Richard Stillman is the new cross-commodity analyst, Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Branch, Commodity Economics Division.



Stillman joined ERS in 1980 and has worked on applied models, situation and outlook reports, the ERS quarterly modeling project, sheep and beef, and an annual livestock and poultry model that is used in baseline and staff analysis. He served on the 1988 ERS drought task force, authored a mandated study for Congress on *U.S. Sheep Industry in Compliance with Section 4508 of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988*, developed a situation and outlook data base, and worked on numerous research and staff analyses activities.

Stillman has a B.S. in economics from Louisiana State University and an M.S. in agricultural economics from Virginia Tech. He has received an ERS Administrator's Special Merit award for development of the livestock and poultry newsletter and a USDA Certificate of Merit for his work on the 1988 drought task force.

## Highlights of Staff Activities

### *Agriculture and Rural Economy Division*

Douglas Bowers, Ann Effland, and Vivian Wiser participated in a meeting of the Society for History in the Federal Government, in Washington D.C. • at an Impact Analysis for Planning (IMPLAN) conference in St. Paul, Minn., Andrew Bernat presented a paper, "The Regional Impacts of Oil Price Shocks: A Topdown CGE Analysis" (coauthored by Kenneth Hanson and David Kraybill, University of Georgia), and Mindy Petrusis, Gerald Schluter, and Judith Sommer participated in the conference • at a Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association meeting at the University of New Hampshire, Michael Compson presented a paper, "The Impact of the 1986 Tax Reform Act and the 1983 Social Security Amendments on Farmers" (coauthored by Ron Durst), and Clifford Rossi presented a paper, "Scale and Scope Economies of Rural Savings and Loans" • William Edmondson conducted seminars on the use of the IMPLAN modeling system at the University of Arkansas and Kentucky State University • Joel Schor presented a paper, "Blacks in American Agriculture," at a National Society for Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences conference in Gainesville, Fla. • David Sears participated in a Washington State Rural Development Council meeting, in Seattle, Wash. • and at a Southern Sociological Society meeting in Atlanta, Ga., Deborah Tootle organized a session on "Economic Restructuring and Inequality" and presented a paper, "Race, Spatial Organization of Southern Labor Markets, and Underemployment" (coauthored by Leann Tigges, University of Georgia).

### *Agriculture and Trade Analysis Division*

At a Western Economics Association meeting in Seattle, Wash., William Kost was a discussant on Southeast Asia trade relations and Lori Lynch presented a paper, "Volunteer vs. Hired Labor in Consumer Cooperatives," and was a discussant for a session, "Economics of Food Labeling" • Lynch also traveled to Florida to discuss the impacts of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada free trade agreement on Florida with producer groups, processors, Florida State Agriculture and Consumer Services staff, University of Florida researchers, and the Governor's Migrant Workers Office staff • Harry Baumes was the U.S. delegate to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's working party on agricultural policies and markets and the joint working party of the committee for agriculture and trade meetings in Paris • Christine Bolling was interviewed by reporters from CBS's "20/20," Wall Street Journal, and AGVIEW on Japanese investment in U.S. agribusiness • Linda Calvin, John Link, Mathew Shane, Jerry Sharples, Constanza Valdez, and Linda Bailey (CED) traveled to Mexico on a fact-finding mission for the upcoming North American free trade area negotiations • Calvin also traveled to Mexico and California to investigate and gather information on fruit and vegetable industries and U.S.-Mexico free trade issues • William Coyle traveled to Tokyo with officials from the U.S. food grain industry to discuss food grain production and distribution with members of Japan's livestock industry • Kenneth Gray spoke on the effects on American farming of developments in the reforming centrally planned economies at a North Central Region Extension conference, in St. Louis, Mo. • Gray also presented a paper, "An Economics 101 Instructor Looks at

Soviet Agriculture," to a graduating class of Soviet financial specialists at Iowa State University • Brian D'Silva traveled to Sudan to assist Sudanese and donor country officials in analyzing the potential for shifting more irrigated land into sorghum to produce more food grains • Kimberly Hjort trained FAO staff to use ERS's country projection and policy analysis model, in Rome, Italy • Robert House spoke on regionalizing the FAPRI baseline at a National Farm Policy meeting, in Washington, D.C. • Richard Kennedy participated in a Southern Extension Public Affairs Committee meeting, in Clearwater, Fla. • Barry Krissoff and Michael Kurtzig were interviewed by USDA-TV on LDC's in a changing global trade environment • Kurtzig was also interviewed by Voice of America on LDC's in a changing trade climate and by Middle East Report on the post-Gulf Middle East as it relates to U.S. agricultural exports in the future • John Link participated in a conference on the impact of a U.S.-Mexico free trade agreement on the border, sponsored by the Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs, in McAllen, Tex. • Carl Mabbs-Zeno spent 6 weeks at FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, working on measuring the impact of Nigerian food policies • Mabbs-Zeno is now in Lesotho consulting with World Bank and the Government of Lesotho staff on agribusiness policy reforms • Mary Lisa Madell was chairperson and Walter Gardiner was a discussant at a European Community Studies Association conference on "The Challenge of a New European Architecture: Implications for the European Community's Internal and External Agendas," in Washington, D.C. • Steve Martinez presented a paper, "Effects on Farm Income and Prices of the U.S. Food Assistance Programs" (coauthored by Praveen Dixit), at a Western Agricultural Economics Association meeting, in Portland, Ore. • Gene Mathia spoke on economic conditions in the 1980's and early 1990's and how Latin American



countries have been affected by changing world conditions at a joint Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture and Inter-American Development Bank meeting in Washington, D.C.

• **Bradley McDonald** participated in an industrial organization and international trade workshop sponsored by the NC-194 regional research committee and the Farm Foundation, in Columbus, Ohio

• **Howard McDowell** presented a paper, "Dairy Income Support: Selected Economic Issues," at a Southern Dairy Issues Forum meeting in Atlanta, Ga.

• **Bob Robinson** was head of the U.S. delegation to the Committee for Agriculture meeting of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, in Paris, France

• **Robinson, John Lee (OA)**, and **Nancy Cochrane** traveled to Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria to meet with agricultural officials on the ERS institution-building project in Eastern Europe

• **David Skully** discussed government intervention in agricultural trade and its implications for LDC food policy at a meeting sponsored by the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, in Hyderabad, India

• **Shahla Shapouri** traveled to Rome, Italy, to consult with officials of the World Food Council and FAO on a U.S. Agency for International Development project evaluating the food sector strategies of Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Tanzania

• and **Shapouri** also traveled to Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Tanzania to collect data to evaluate the effectiveness of country food sector strategies in improving the welfare of the people.

## *Commodity Economics Division*

**Linda Bailey** traveled to Mexico to meet with industry and government officials on the status of the Mexican livestock industry

• **Allen Baker** participated in a fuel ethanol workshop sponsored by International Bio-Synthetics in South Bend, Ind.

• **Annette Clauson** visited the Hawaii Sugar Planter's Association research station in Aiea, Hawaii, and met with sugar plantation managers on the islands of Kauai, Maui, Hawaii, and Oahu

• **Doyle Johnson** presented a paper, "Tropical Cut Flower Markets," at a Caribbean Basin Initiative meeting sponsored by USDA's Office of International Cooperation and Development, in Washington, D.C.

• **Lewrene Glaser** visited agricultural experiment stations and university research farms in Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona, to meet with scientists working on lesquerella, crambe, guayule, and veronia

• **Catherine Greene** participated in an import workshop on regulatory issues of the 1990's, in Washington, D.C.

• **Verner Grise** participated in a Tobacco Growers Cooperatives meeting, in Washington, D.C.

• **Charles Handy** presented a paper, "Structural Changes in the Global Food System," at an international symposium of cooperative managers, in Carmel, Calif.

• **Handy** also participated in a House Select Committee on Hunger symposium on food retailing issues in low-income areas, in Washington, D.C.

• **T.Q. Hutchinson** participated in a Transportation Research Forum meeting, in Washington, D.C.

• **William Lin** spoke on issues relating to grain quality at an NCR-186 regional research committee meeting on grain marketing, in Portland, Oreg.

• **Kathryn Lipton** was interviewed for USDA radio and television on her "Americans and Food" computerized educational program

• **Gary Lucier** was interviewed by a Grand Forks, N.D., radio station on the prospects for trade and domestic sales of dry edible beans

• **Lester Myers** participated in an NCR-194 regional research committee workshop on applied work in the area of industrial and international economics, in Columbus, Ohio

• and **Myers** also

participated in a National Dairy Board meeting, in Washington, D.C.

## *Resources and Technology Division*

**Eldon Ball** met with university and government officials to develop international comparisons of productivity growth in agriculture, in Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg

• **Leonard Bull, Herman Delvo, Harold Taylor**, and staff from USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service conducted a training school for a survey to determine onfarm use of pesticides, fertilizers, and tillage practices on principal field crops, in Houston, Tex. and St. Paul, Minn.

• at a Western Economic Association meeting in Seattle, Wash., **Margriet Caswell** spoke on "Environmental Interdisciplinary Research and the Economist"; **LeRoy Hansen** presented a paper, "The Demand for Pheasant Hunting: Evaluation of the Impacts of Agricultural Practices"; and **Abebayehu Tegene** presented a paper, "Evaluating Forecasting Models of Farmland Prices" (coauthored by **Fred Kuchler**)

• **Caswell** also presented a paper, "Economic Research on the Effects of Biotechnology in Market Economies," at a US-EC task force on biotechnology meeting in Brussels, Belgium

• **Stephen Crutchfield** participated in a meeting to discuss evaluation activities under the USDA Water Quality Initiative, in Columbus, Ohio

• at an Association of Environmental and Resource Economists workshop on management of nonpoint source pollution, in Lexington, Ky., **David Ervin** presented a paper, "Data Requirements for Modeling and Evaluating National Agricultural Nonpoint Water Pollution Policies" (coauthored by **Robbin Shoemaker** and **Robert Kellogg**); **David Letson** presented a paper, "Point/Nonpoint Source Trading for Controlling



Pollutant Loadings to Coastal Waters: A Feasibility Study" (coauthored by **Stephen Crutchfield** and **Arun Malik**); and **Marca Weinberg** presented two papers, "Analysis of Policy Options for the Control of Agricultural Pollution in California's San Joaquin River Basin" and "Optimal Policies for the Control of Nonpoint Source Pollution in a Second Best Environment" (both coauthored by **Catherine Kling** and **James Wilen**, University of California, Davis) • **Jorge Fernandez-Cornejo** presented a paper, "Short- and Long-Run Substitution of Agricultural Inputs," at a Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association meeting in Durham, N.H. • **George Frisvold** presented a paper, "Product Quality Research under Asymmetric Information" (coauthored by **Daniel Putler**) at an NE-165 regional research committee conference on "Competitive Strategy Analysis in the Food System," in Alexandria, Va. • **Ralph Heimlich** spoke on "Wetlands and Agriculture: Recent Federal Policy and Emerging Issues" at a joint meeting of the Southern Extension Public Affairs, Marketing, and Farm Management Committees in

Clearwater, Fla. • **Heimlich** also participated in an NE-170 regional research committee meeting on "Rural Land Policy in the Northeast," in Durham, N.H. • **Betsey Kuhn** and **John Miranowski** participated in a National Consortium for Educational Access meeting in Atlanta, Ga. • **Miranowski** attended a Great Plains Agricultural Council executive committee meeting and chaired a session on the 1990 farm legislation, in Wichita, Kans. • **Miranowski** also participated in a Crop Protection Systems task force meeting sponsored by Resources for the Future, in Airlie, Va. • **Matthew Rendleman** presented a paper, "Do Corn Farmers Have Too Much Faith in the Sugar Program?" (coauthored by **Thomas Hertel**, Purdue University), at a Western Agricultural Economics Association meeting in Portland, Oreg. • **Marc Ribaud** presented a paper, "Incentive Based and Regulatory Proposals: Water Quality Act Reauthorization," at a National Research Council Board of Agriculture's Committee on Long-Range Soil and Water Conservation Policy meeting, in Washington, D.C. • **Glenn Schaible** and **Michael Moore** attended a W-178 regional

research committee meeting on "Water Conservation and Management in Western Irrigated Agriculture," in Durango, Colo. • **David Westenbarger** attended a National Agricultural Biotechnology Council conference on "Biotechnology at the Crossroads," in Sacramento, Calif. • and **Gene Wunderlich** moderated a session on "Global Parameters of Sustainability" at a conference on "Varieties of Sustainability: Reflecting on Ethics, Environment, and Economic Equity," sponsored by the University of California (Santa Cruz), and the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society, in Asilomar, Calif.

### *Office of the Administrator*

**Milton Ericksen** participated in the annual meeting of the Great Plains Agricultural Council, in Wichita, Kans. • **John Lee** and **Edward Reinsel** participated in a U.S. Census Advisory Committee on Agricultural Statistics meeting in Washington, D.C. • and **Reinsel** also participated in a National Academy of Sciences Committee on National Statistics meeting, in Washington, D.C.



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